

23 October 1952

Mr. Richard D. Marriott
Head, BBC Monitoring Service
Caversham Park
Reading, England

Dear Mr. Marriott:

My letter of 7 October in which I expressed our appreciation for the very excellent work the BBC Monitoring Service did on the spate of important Soviet events was premature to the extent that we had not at that time received all of the congratulatory messages from members of the American intelligence community. We are still hearing from various offices, commenting on the value, excellence and speed of the BBC reportage.

In reply to the second paragraph of your letter of 17 October, we had tentatively planned to have preliminary talks and to show you our East Coast Bureau on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday--1, 2 and 3 December. Then on Thursday and Friday we could take care of the formal meetings with [redacted] in the Chairman's seat. I believe [redacted] is going to take a little shooting trip on our Thanksgiving (27 November) but will be back in time for the Committee Meeting. Unless I hear from you to the contrary, we will proceed along these lines.

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In planning a little social gathering for you, I would like to know if there are any personal friends of yours in Washington or any officials at the Embassy that you would like to have present.

Sincerely,

AMW/pgc
Add - Orig
Chief, London - 1
Admin files - 1
BBC file - 1
AMW - 1

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THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

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Reference:
07.MS.RDM

[redacted]
F.B.I.S.,
2430 E Street, NW,
Washington 25, D.C.

17th October 1952

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Dear [redacted]

I was delighted to get the very kind message in your letter of 7th October, which I will make known to all members of the BBC Monitoring Service. I really think we have done quite a good job of work on this occasion and we received quite a number of messages of congratulation from the Government departments here who take our material. But it is nicest of all to hear from the F.B.I.S. itself, which is doing the same job of work and knows all the difficulties involved.

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I understand that [redacted] has written to [redacted] suggesting December 1st as the date of our meeting. This will suit me all right, but I rather gathered that the way you have arranged it in the past has been to have a few days of informal discussions first of all and then have a rather short meeting at the end to agree formally all the matters which have been previously discussed. If this is the case you might agree that it would be best for me to arrive on Monday, December 1st, and to have the final meeting at the end of that week. However, if anything else is in your mind, let me know and I will fit in accordingly.

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Yours sincerely,



R.D. Marriott